

MIAMI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
25 N BROADWAY
PERU, IN 46970
November 18, 2013

Chairman Francis called the meeting to order. All members were present.

MINUTES

Commissioner West made a motion to approve the minutes from November 12th.
Commissioner Hamman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

BUDGETS

SOIL AND WATER

Mary Lou Musselman and Troy Hattery came before the Board to discuss their budgets.
After reviewing their budget, they decided they could trim \$1,200 from the rent line.

Mrs. Musselman also informed the Board she is working on a contingency plan to cover in case of another Federal shutdown.

On a separate note, Mr. Hattery asked about the U.S. 31 Corridor and the comprehensive Plan. Commissioner Francis stated that the Comprehensive Plan is being worked in order to best address the U.S. 31 Corridor issues.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Ken Scott addressed the Commissioners regarding his budget by stating he had made cuts previously and could not cut anywhere else.

HEALTH

Diane Engle stated there they could not make any cuts to the Health Department budget.
The Commissioners did ask Dr. Farag, Health Officer, if he would consider getting a stipend for a supplement instead of being on the County Health insurance. Commissioner West has a supplement and does have to pay on any medical bills. Dr. Farag said he would think about it.

HEALTH GRANT

There were no cuts were made.

TOBACCO SETTLEMENT

There were no cuts made.

TREASURER

Becky Morris informed the Board that the Treasurer's office is caught up from tax collection and the collection rate was 94.3%.

Mrs. Morris asked the Board about charging for tax bills when people come to pay their taxes and do not have the bills with them. The discussion was 65 cents per copy. The Board will check with the County Attorney.

IT

John Evans gave the Board information on a backup appliance that would enable him to retrieve data in the event a server went down. The approximate cost would be \$20,000. Since it could potentially help the City as well, Mr. Evans will talk to them and see if they would be interested in going in on it.

HIGHWAY BIDS

The bids for the Highway were opened at 11:00. The following companies presented bids:

FUEL

McClures

AGGREGATE

Speedway Sand & Gravel

West Plains
Hanson
Kokomo Gravel
IMI – Peru
IMI - Swayzee

Commissioner West made a motion to take under advisement until next week.
Commissioner Hamman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

COURTS

Judges Spahr, Grund, and Banina met with the Board to discuss their budgets. After reviewing their budgets, the group decided that they could each cut \$1,000 from their law book. While all 3 judges understand it is hard to understand why they all need money in their budgets for law books, they explained that it is not all hardback books that is covered by that money. They are required to have a set of books for the law library but they also have subscriptions for the Indiana Codes, Trial Rules, Law Encyclopedias, and Indiana Practice. These are things they use consistently to do research on cases. They have also seen an increase on appeals and each appeal cost at least \$2,000.

Judge Spahr also spoke to the Board about the terms for the Public Defender Board. The Commissioner has an appointment to the Board, which is Dal Metzger. The other two appointments are from the Judges. Mr. Metzger is willing to serve another term starting January 1, 2014 (a 3-year term). The two appointments for the Judges are Ron Thibos, Republican who does not want to continue and Barri Rassi, Democrat and he will continue. All terms will be effective 1-1-14. The Judges will notify the Auditor of who will replace Mr. Thibos.

Judge Spahr also updated the Board on the progress of the railing and bench repair. The railing is almost complete and the some of the benches are complete. Judge Spahr is pleased with the work that has been done.

HIGHWAY ENGINEER

Ken Einselen reviewed the priority list for the bridges with the Board.

Commissioner West made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hamman 2nd the motion and it passed 3-0.

Adjourned

MIAMI COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSION

_____, **Chairman**
Joshua Francis

_____, **Vice Chairman**
Larry West

_____, **Member**
Jerry Hamman

Attest: _____, **Auditor**
Jane Lilley